

Sioux Tribe, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Santee Sioux Tribe, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, the Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

Today, there are too many uncertainties associated with investments on reservations. These uncertainties have led businesses and investors to look past Indian Country when it comes to establishing a business or making investments.

The Sioux Nation Tribal Supreme Court would act as a court of appeals for legal decisions resulting from actions occurring within the jurisdiction of one of the 11 tribes of the Sioux Nation. The bill would not alter criminal or civil jurisdictions in any way. The center that would house the Supreme Court would also contain legal resources, such as a library and law clerks. Information, knowledge, and expertise then would be available to the tribes in drafting of ordinances and making legal decisions, ultimately bringing uniformity and consistency to the legal systems for each of the tribes.

The bill also would provide a repository for archival information for tribal descendants and artifacts as well as an interpretative center of relations between American Indians and non-Indians. The site chosen is one of significance. It borders the original site of a trading fort, Fort Pierre, that was a center for commerce and trade between Indians and non-Indians. It also would be located at a setting near some of the Sioux Tribe's first encounters with the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery.

Another important component of the bill concerns Title II. Title II of the bill would authorize a General Accounting Office (GAO) review of existing tribal economic development, job creation, entrepreneurship, and business development programs. Title II has been modified from a previous version I had drafted for consideration. A draft version of the bill would have provided for a Native American Economic Development Council made up of representatives of each of the 11 tribes as well as appointees of the Secretary of Interior and the Governor of South Dakota. Although the Gentleman from Alaska, Chairman YOUNG, agrees with the need for economic stimulation on our reservations, he made clear his belief that the creation of a new program at this time requires additional review of the Committee on Resources.

While I feel as though the program as drafted would fulfill its mission and goals, I am willing to continue working with him toward this goal through this session and next Congress. I am certain the GAO study will provide important information about existing programs. With that information in hand, we can work toward an economic development program that is not duplicative of current efforts and directs funding at the greatest needs and for the greatest good.

There is no question that there are tremendous needs when it comes to improving economic opportunities in Indian Country and in Rural America. The counties in South Dakota where reservations are located experience some of the highest poverty rates and unemployment rates in the nation. Yet, assistance already is being provided to the tribes and to assist American Indians with job and business ownership opportunities.

Our challenge now is to scrutinize the obstacles to achieving economic prosperity, identify ways to overcome those obstacles, and build opportunities. I will continue working with the tribes of the Sioux Nation and my colleagues in Congress to see this happen.

I also should point to changes that were made in order to accommodate concerns regarding the trust status. The bill outlines in Sec. 101 that the Secretary of Interior take the land into trust on behalf of the Sioux Nation. Language has been included that the Reconciliation Place land have trust status only for the purposes outlined under subsection c of the bill. It would be my understanding of the language that trust status would not apply for purposes not designated by the Act or if the facility ceases to function for the purposes under the Act.

The last component of this legislation allows for a mediation center to be established in the Wakpa Sica Reconciliation Place. The Department of Justice Office of Tribal Justice has testified before Congress regarding the need for mediation training and services in South Dakota. Mediation and conflict resolution training could help fulfill the desire of Governor Mickelson to ensure that we have done more than create government programs and, as he said, for future generations of South Dakotans to "see that you and I, Indian and non-Indian, are concerned about one another."

Mr. Speaker, I think our colleagues in the House can see the bill before us has the potential to address some very real needs in the areas of tribal justice, economic development, cultural preservation, and community relations. I truly feel these combined efforts continue our commitment to the Century of Reconciliation. We are promoting more than government programs; we are encouraging personal dialogue, which is essential to understanding and respect.

I would like to thank Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member MILLER and the House Majority Leadership for their cooperation in bringing this bill to the floor as we approach adjournment. I also would like to thank the tribal and local interests, including Bill Fischer, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe Chairman Michael Jandreau, and Clarence Skye for their tireless efforts, and so many others in South Dakota who have helped to make this a reality.

Again, I ask my colleagues to vote in support of the bill.

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHERWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5528, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2130

REPORTS CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2712) to amend chapter 35 of

title 31, United States Code, to authorize the consolidation of certain financial and performance management reports required of Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2712

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Reports Consolidation Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) existing law imposes numerous financial and performance management reporting requirements on agencies;

(2) these separate requirements can cause duplication of effort on the part of agencies and result in uncoordinated reports containing information in a form that is not completely useful to Congress; and

(3) pilot projects conducted by agencies under the direction of the Office of Management and Budget demonstrate that single consolidated reports providing an analysis of verifiable financial and performance management information produce more useful reports with greater efficiency.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to authorize and encourage the consolidation of financial and performance management reports;

(2) to provide financial and performance management information in a more meaningful and useful format for Congress, the President, and the public;

(3) to improve the quality of agency financial and performance management information; and

(4) to enhance coordination and efficiency on the part of agencies in reporting financial and performance management information.

SEC. 3. CONSOLIDATED REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 3516. Reports consolidation

"(a)(1) With the concurrence of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the head of an executive agency may adjust the frequency and due dates of, and consolidate into an annual report to the President, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress any statutorily required reports described in paragraph (2). Such a consolidated report shall be submitted to the President, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and to appropriate committees and subcommittees of Congress not later than 150 days after the end of the agency's fiscal year.

"(2) The following reports may be consolidated into the report referred to in paragraph (1):

"(A) Any report by an agency to Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, or the President under section 1116, this chapter, and chapters 9, 33, 37, 75, and 91.

"(B) The following agency-specific reports:

"(i) The biennial financial management improvement plan by the Secretary of Defense under section 2222 of title 10.

"(ii) The annual report of the Attorney General under section 522 of title 28.

"(C) Any other statutorily required report pertaining to an agency's financial or performance management if the head of the agency—

"(i) determines that inclusion of that report will enhance the usefulness of the reported information to decision makers; and

"(ii) consults in advance of inclusion of that report with the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee

on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other committee of Congress having jurisdiction with respect to the report proposed for inclusion.

"(b) A report under subsection (a) that incorporates the agency's program performance report under section 1116 shall be referred to as a performance and accountability report.

"(c) A report under subsection (a) that does not incorporate the agency's program performance report under section 1116 shall contain a summary of the most significant portions of the agency's program performance report, including the agency's success in achieving key performance goals for the applicable year.

"(d) A report under subsection (a) shall include a statement prepared by the agency's inspector general that summarizes what the inspector general considers to be the most serious management and performance challenges facing the agency and briefly assesses the agency's progress in addressing those challenges. The inspector general shall provide such statement to the agency head at least 30 days before the due date of the report under subsection (a). The agency head may comment on the inspector general's statement, but may not modify the statement.

"(e) A report under subsection (a) shall include a transmittal letter from the agency head containing, in addition to any other content, an assessment by the agency head of the completeness and reliability of the performance and financial data used in the report. The assessment shall describe any material inadequacies in the completeness and reliability of the data, and the actions the agency can take and is taking to resolve such inadequacies."

(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR FISCAL YEARS 2000 AND 2001.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of section 3516(a) of title 31, United States Code (as added by subsection (a) of this section), the head of an executive agency may submit a consolidated report under such paragraph not later than 180 days after the end of that agency's fiscal year, with respect to fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3515 the following:

"3516. Reports consolidation."

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

(a) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.—Section 3515 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting "Congress and the" before "Director"; and

(2) by striking subsections (e) through (h).

(b) ELIMINATION OF REPORT.—Section 3521(f) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "subsections (a) and (f)" and inserting "subsection (a)"; and

(B) by striking "(1)"; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2).

SEC. 5. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORTS.

(a) REPORT DUE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1116(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking "No later than March 31, 2000, and no later than March 31 of each year thereafter," and inserting "Not later than 150 days after the end of an agency's fiscal year,".

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR FISCAL YEARS 2000 AND 2001.—Notwithstanding subsection (a) of section 1116 of title 31, United States Code (as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection), an agency head may submit a report under such subsection not later than 180 days after

the end of that agency's fiscal year, with respect to fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

(b) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION IN FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—Section 1116(e) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(e)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), each program performance report shall contain an assessment by the agency head of the completeness and reliability of the performance data included in the report. The assessment shall describe any material inadequacies in the completeness and reliability of the performance data, and the actions the agency can take and is taking to resolve such inadequacies.

"(2) If a program performance report is incorporated into a report submitted under section 3516, the requirements of section 3516(e) shall apply in lieu of paragraph (1)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THUNE). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 2712.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2712 would authorize executive branch departments and agencies to consolidate statutorily mandated financial and performance management reports into one single annual report.

The consolidated reports would present in one document an integrated picture of an agency's performance. As such, they will be more useful to Congress, to the executive branch, and to the public.

The Office of Management and Budget, which is part of the President's establishment, had temporary authority to consolidate reports on a pilot basis, but that authority expired in April of this year. S. 2712 restores the reports consolidation authority and makes it permanent.

The bill also includes provisions that would make the annual reports more useful. The bill would require that the reports include, one, an assessment by the agency head of the reliability of the agency's performance data; and, two, an assessment by the agency Inspector General of the agency's progress in addressing its most serious management challenges.

The bill would also move up the deadline for submission of performance reports required under the Government Performance and Results Act, and change that from March 31 to March 1. This earlier deadline would provide more timely information for the budget cycle. Reports on department and agency performance are vital if a President is to have a credible budget.

Another important part of this legislation is it requires agencies to submit

their annual audited financial statements to Congress in addition to the President. An important gauge of success is whether or not agencies are able to produce financial statements which can be audited. The timely receipt of their information is critical to successful congressional oversight.

As my colleagues know, Mr. Speaker, the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology, which I chair, is dedicated to the implementation of sound financial management throughout the Federal Government. The information contained in agency financial statements is used by the subcommittee to measure the effectiveness of financial management at the 24 largest Federal departments and agencies.

On March 31 of this year, the subcommittee released its third annual financial management report card. The report card is a gauge for Congress to see where attention is needed to prod agencies toward getting their financial affairs in order. Similar to the grades issued in 1999, the subcommittee's report card of the most recent agencies were primarily D's and F's.

This year, the subcommittee graded the Federal Government as a whole based on the government's consolidated audit report prepared by the General Accounting Office. Overall, the government earned a D-plus, the government being the executive branch.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has attempted to instill the principles of performance-based management throughout the Federal Government. The report authorized by this bill would give Congress and the American people a single source of information about the management of each Federal agency. This information is critically important if Congress is to hold agencies accountable for the resources it spends to do the people's business.

S. 2712 was introduced by Senators FRED THOMPSON and JOSEPH LIEBERMAN. It was reported by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and passed the Senate by unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2712, the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000. This is a good government piece of legislation that would allow all of our Federal agencies to consolidate into a single annual report a whole variety of different financial and performance reports that they are required by law to submit. This will go a long way toward reducing administrative burdens within the agencies and avoid unnecessary duplication.

It is a provision that will allow the public and the Congress and the agencies themselves to see in one document a variety of various reports that need to be in one place in order to adequately review them and to make them

more useful to this Congress in pursuing our goal of trying to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Federal agencies.

The administration has made good progress in trying to improve management practices and performance. Our committee carefully reviewed the activities of every agency.

I commend the gentleman from California (Chairman Horn) for his work and his leadership in trying to be sure that the oversight function of the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology was carried out to the fullest degree possible.

In short, this legislation is another example of a good, bipartisan piece of legislation that I think has been the hallmark of our subcommittee during this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), ranking member, for all the help and work that he has given on all of these issues in terms of effectiveness and efficiency and on a bipartisan basis. As he said, this is simply good government. So we are getting there, slowly, but surely.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2712.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RONALD W. REAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5309) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, as the "Ronald W. Reagan Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5309

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RONALD W. REAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald W. Reagan Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ronald W. Reagan Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 5309.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the honor of speaking on dozens of these initiatives over the past year, and each one has been an honor, and each designee, I think, brings a special quality and a special attribute before us that we can all admire.

This first bill, the Ronald Reagan Post Office, obviously seeks to honor an individual that presents a challenge in that regard. It would be impossible, certainly, for me to fully describe, even adequately describe, the contributions, the remarkable life that this man brought and even to this day offers to each and every one of us as an example of the American way, from his time overcoming what I think most people would fairly describe as a challenging family background, to become the first graduate of college in his family, through his remarkable contributions to sports fans across this country and his days as a sports broadcaster, to his very illustrative and, I think, very entertaining time in the movie industry, and thereafter, of course, in his remarkable contributions in the public sector as the Governor and as the President of the United States.

I think I would simply say that, even at this moment in his lifetime, Ronald Reagan is a story that we can all learn from and we can all build upon.

As our President, he came into office at a time of some disillusionment, a time when I think many Americans were questioning, not just themselves, but the role of this great country. He gave us hope and he gave us confidence in ourselves and in this Nation once more.

The power of his words, the power of his leadership were felt virtually every day in which he resided in the White House. It would be impossible as well to describe in detail the achievements

that he put forward, the crushing of Communism, the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, and so much more.

I think for my part in this, Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that, in 1994, after several years of riding and traveling in silence, at that time, former President Reagan, who was known as a great communicator, wrote a handwritten letter informing this Nation that he had the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Perhaps the essence of President Reagan's life is captured in his own words. I would simply read them to my colleagues: "In this land of dreams fulfilled, where greater dreams may be imagined, nothing is impossible. No victory is beyond our reach. No glory will ever be too great. The world's hopes rest with America's future. Our work will pale before the greatness of American champions in the 21st century."

Those lines written by the Great Communicator himself, I think, encapsulizes so very well the dream that he helped us to rediscover.

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON), who worked with the entire Florida delegation in bringing their cosponsorship to this naming.

I would add as a final word a conversation that I had with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) just prior to coming to the floor about why he chose and decided to pursue a naming of a postal facility in the State of Florida.

He said to me, "There are going to be a lot of children in the years ahead that will look on that building and ask the question, who is Ronald Reagan? And I want them to know who this great American was."

I cannot think of a better reason or a better tribute to honor this great man. Our congratulations, of course, go to him and our support and best wishes to his family, particularly his lovely wife, Nancy.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5309, which names a post office after "Ronald W. Reagan", was introduced on September 26, 2000, by Representative DAVE WELDON (R-FL).

Ronald Wilson Reagan was the 40th President of the United States. He served as President from January, 1981 to January, 1989. At 73, he was the oldest man ever elected president. He was well known as "Dutch", "The Gipper", and the "The Great Communicator."

An actor by profession, President Reagan served as Governor of California from 1966 to 1974. During his presidency, his economic policies came to be known as "Reaganomics".

In November of 1994, former President Reagan announced that he was afflicted with Alzheimer's.

Although a number of facilities have been named after the former president—schools, streets, highways, and even the Washington Airport, a crowning achievement was when